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PRES: William M. Thordsen  
1104 Broadway  
Albany, New York  
PHONE: (518) 434-8806

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only \$12 per year.

NEWSLETTER EDITORS  
Helen  
and  
Wilma Thordsen

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Hi Girls;

With summer over Wilma & I enjoyed very much having some of the TV's visit with us on the Island, it made for a very pleasant summer. Hope you all enjoyed your summer months. I know probably some of you don't dress in the hot weather as make-up runs and wigs are to hot to wear. But alas we are but to fall weather now as last night was proof. We had 29 here for the September meeting. Happy to say we had nine wives and 20 TV's. Four were new members making their first appearance here. As usual the older members made the new members feel right at home. Providing them with an easing comfort so that they can relax and enjoy the evening and not be sorry they can't.

Chryst, who was one of the new wives, sat in the kitchen with Dennie, I and Debbie (who was also a first timer). I was pleased at the well balanced outlook she had about her husband being a TV. It seems she has an open mind about the whole thing and tried to find others she could talk with about transvestism. She has found much happiness with her husband as she said, he doesn't beat her, nor does she have to go looking for him in some grill, and he doesn't spend the grocery money on gambling. He helps her with work at home and takes care of their son, as Chryst works long hours. Juliann her better half works nights. Her only fear of course is their 2yr old son, when do you tell him about his father and how to tell him. I told her somehow she would know when the right time came, now that they came here and made friends. Pricilla & Eileen have invited them to visit with them, which I am sure they will learn a lot more about TVism as they have children how have seen they're father in womens dress and it has not had any effect on thier lives. I find Pricilla and Eileen a nice couple who have been an inspiration to the other TV's as they mingle with all and try to bring others out of the closet and make friends so that they to could enjoy the life. They would like to live.

Those who came and enjoyed the evening with us on our 34th Wedding Anniversary were- Joan and Gale Edwards of Granville NY, Dennie & Michelle Bolis-Sommerville Mass., Vie & Dee Watson-Hartford Conn., Sonya & Cynthia Masey-Norwalk Conn., Leslie & Ezabell Abbott-Wilton Conn., Eileen & Pricella Johnson-Poughkeepsie N.Y., Karen Goyer-Saratoga N.Y., Winnie Brant-Schenectady N.Y., Sue Morrison-Nassau N.Y., Sandy Eisenbaun-Rochester N.Y., Pricilla Welch-Scotia N.Y., Alice -Colonie N.Y., Joan-Colonie N.Y., Joan-Poughkeepsie N.Y., Veronica-Warsaw N.Y., Brenda-Massena N.Y., Renne Stratford Conn., Stephanie-N.Y. N.Y., Chryst & Juliann-Modina N.Y. and Wilma & Helen Albany N.Y.,

We made a good punch to Celebrate our 34th with the girls. The meal for the girls was- Roast Beef, mashed potatos, gravey, corn, veg. pie, fresh sliced tomatos, pickles, rolls, butter, coffee, cake and pies.

Anniversary cake made by Dennie. Cherry pie made by Pricilla and maple walnut cake by Chryst (one of the new girls) I want to thank these girls for the lovely desserts as the girls really ate them up pretty good, it's the first time I can remember seeing the girls going back to the table for the dessert, first the pie then for the cakes. It's good they cleaned up most of it as Wilma and I are trying to take off some weight.

Some of the girls want the recipe for the veg-pie so here it is;

Easy garden Vegetable pie

2-cups chopped brocaoli or sliced cauliflower  
(Fresh or frozen)  
 $\frac{1}{2}$ -cup chopped onion  
 $\frac{1}{2}$ -cup chopped green pepper  
1-cup shredded cheddar cheese (about 40z)  
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ -cups of milk  
 $\frac{3}{4}$ -cup bisquick baking mix  
3-eggs  
1-Teaspoon salt  
 $\frac{1}{4}$ -Teaspoon pepper  
Any veg. or combinatio of veg. may be substituted  
Heat oven to 400 deg. light grease pie plate  
10x1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " Heat 1" of salt water to boiling. Add  
broccoli or cauliflower. Cover and heat to  
boiling cook until tender. About 5min. drain  
throughly. Mix brocioli, onion, green pepper  
and cheese in pie plate. Beat the remaining  
ingredients until smooth. 15 sec. in blender  
on high speed or med. with hand blender.  
Pour into pie plate and bake until golden  
brown. Test by inserting kife half way between  
center any edge should come out clean about  
35 to 40 minutes.

Punch Recipe

3 oranges sliced  
2 lemons sliced  
1 10oz can pineapple chunks  
1 jar cherries  
soak over night in 1 qt. of Rye whiskey  
add 1 can large pineapple juice  
1 can Apricot nectar  
1 qt. gingerale  
Ice to keep cold or refrigerate till ready  
to serve Put ice cube in glass and enjoy.

STEPHENIA A.: "Are we gain-  
ing acceptance or loos-  
ing ground?"

JILLIAN M.: I think if  
we had our dresses on  
we would realy then be  
accepted. I'm glade tha-  
we didn't have to do  
the dishes at the TVIC  
party last night.



Wilma and I wish to thank the girls for the anniversary cards we recieved and our thanks to Chyntha & Sonya for the parady that was sung to us by the Conn. SIX because of space we will print it next month. Thank You Love

THE MASOCHISTIC SIDE OF THE TV:

Masochism, as everyone knows, is the ability to find pleasurable satisfactions in painful or unpleasant circumstances. This is considered to be abnormal, but like all abnormal things its abnormalcy lies not in the kind but in the degree. That is, masochism is not something that does not appear in normal individuals and suddenly appears and makes the individual abnormal. No, Masochism is part of everyone's life. How-many can say that they have never bitten a sore spot on their tongue or lip until it hurt more than before, or scratched violently or squeezed a mosquito bite till it hurt considerably more than before? While these two hastily chosen examples may not cover all who read this piece, a little self examination will turn up the practice in some other way and place.

But all masochism is not physical. There is what is called "moral" masochism, that is psychological pain. The TV who laces himself to the point of discomfort or who wears 5 inch heels (LIKE ELANDA M.) till they kill his feet is not so much enjoying the corset or the heels as he is the masochistic satisfaction that they create. Others impose what is the equivalent of petticateat punishment on themselves inthat they feel that to aggay themselves in feminin garments, the rightful clothing of a supposedly inferior group, is a degradation of their lefty masculinity and this provides some masochistic pleasures. This is of course the basis of punishing boys in girls clothes.

There is, however, another morally masochistic angle to the lives of some of us. Obviously, there is a sort of perverse pleasure in playing Russian Roulette...you might lose. Gambling large sums that you cant afford is another form of the same thing. Taking any kind of important chance in the hope that you come out on the winning side but knowing that the stakes are high if you lose is more of the same. There appears to be some among us who attach this same type of pleasure to the matter of going out while dressed. That is, thereis the same scary hope he'll be discovered and fear that he will be. This leads him to take unnecessary chances either in his appearance or the places he goes and the things he does. The risk involved is stimulating. For some reason risk is stimulating to human beings. If it were not it is hard to understand why we have such phenomena as Auto racing which practically every year kills someone in the Indianapolis 500. So our morally masochistic TV goes out into the world in fear and trembling knowing the risk he is taking and getting a big charge out of the activity more from the risk involved than from the transvestism itself. Such a person is not by any stretch of imagination a Femmepersonator...he is not simply expressing his feminine self, he is using TVism for a masochistic thrill. The more things he can do and get away with the greater the thrill. Of course, he has to go in for greater and greater and greater risks because after something has been done several times & nothing happens the risk is apparently not too great, so the satisfactions are not great either and he must undertake activities with greated and greater risk in order to get satisfying kicks out of it. this is pretty mouch like dope in which larger doses have to be resorted to to get the same effect.

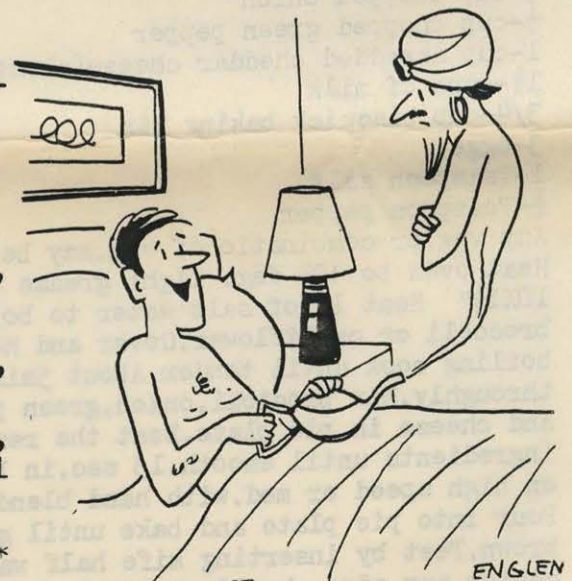
I can only caution such peoplr to look in the mirror and ask themselves honestly how much of their activity and its satisfactions are due to the masochistic element and urge him to consider thatin most cases he is risking not only his own position but often that of others. It is ~~the~~ kind of like taking the baby's milk money and going to the races and betting in the hope that you'll make a bundle and be able to buy lots of milk. But when the horse doesn't come in baby does not get her bottle of milk either and the betteors satisfaction is paie for in someone else's suffering. I'm not campaigning against going out, I do so myself, but obviously I cant recoment it either. But most particularly, I an against the going out that is motivated by the masochistic satisfaction routine. So stop and ask yourself an honest question or two. Maybe that extra tight corest will give you a clue....WILMA....

(EDITORS NOTE: Now that you have read this page how about a comment or two for or against it. or did I waste aage.??\*)

My wife helen always eager to do a little head shrinking on me, remarked that the contents of my purse "weren't very feminine", So I took a quick inventory, Miles of print have been spent on the contents of ladies purses, but not much on TV's, so here goes; 3 tubes of matte make-up, nail file, one caught drop, ball-point pen, one cotton swab, 6 color eye shadow sticks, after shave lotion, silk film make up, rubber bands, bracelet, long earrings, clip finger nails, lipstick, nail polish, typewriter eraser, watch with no works, 2 tiny cold cream pks., small knife, vial of polish remover, 10 inches of 1 inch elastic. SO WHATS SO #%&\*?@ UNFEMININE ABOUT THAT????????

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A tasty young girl from PERU filled up her sweet parts with glue. She said with a grin "they paid to get in, now they'll pay to get out again too"



YUONNE POE  
 BEEKSKILL, N.Y.  
 "I'd like a bra, a slip, silk panties, high-heeled shoes and a blonde wig!"

PARTY DATES:

Well here we are into a new year for TVIC. Our 27th year. We must be doing something right. Do hope you all had a nice vacation and are ready for another 10 months of parties. TVIC holds its parties on the third Saturday of each month. Our next 3 party dates will be Oct.17, Nov. 21, and Dec. 12 or 19 for the Christmas party. I would like a response from members who attend our parties about the Dec. date. Do you want Dec. 12 or Dec.19. I must have your answers by OCT 15. Reservations must be made for all parties at least 4 days in advance

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TOO

|                          |      |    |                            |      |    |
|--------------------------|------|----|----------------------------|------|----|
| BARBARA [REDACTED] ..... | OCT. | 2  | MRS. MINA [REDACTED] ..... | OCT. | 20 |
| HENRY [REDACTED] .....   | "    | 3  | SAMANTHA [REDACTED] .....  | "    | 21 |
| FRED [REDACTED] .....    | "    | 6  | MILTON [REDACTED] .....    | "    | 27 |
| CHARLES [REDACTED] ..... | "    | 8  | EBEN [REDACTED] .....      | "    | 28 |
| PAUL [REDACTED] .....    | "    | 16 | WILMA [REDACTED] .....     | "    | 28 |
| FRANK [REDACTED] .....   | "    | 18 | WILLIAM [REDACTED] .....   | "    | 29 |

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY : TOO

DEE & VIE WATSON AND MR.& MRS P. GALLAGHER

NEW MEMBERS:

I am pleased to announce the enrollment of 7 new members this month.

|                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| VALERIE M.... [REDACTED] | joyce d..... [REDACTED] |
| DAINA D..... [REDACTED]  | MYRILIAN H.. [REDACTED] |
| PAULA D..... [REDACTED]  | ERIN B..... [REDACTED]  |
| YVONNE P..... [REDACTED] |                         |

SPECIAL THANKS

TOO JEANETT MACOMB, JERRY HINCKLEY AND JOYCE DOLAN for the extra \$ sent in for postage

TOO: ALICE [REDACTED] for the news clippings.  
 TOO: MARILYN [REDACTED] & PAULA [REDACTED] for the photos sent in.  
 TOO: EILEEN [REDACTED] for the cartoons sent in.

TOO ALL MICHIGAN TVS:

ELAINE WILLEY is trying to get the CROSSROADS CHAPTER going again. So if you gals out there want to meet others and be at parties then contact her for meeting dates at the CROSSROADS CHAPTER--POB 3013--FLINT, MICH. 48502.

MEMBERS WHO SEEK CORRESPONDENCE:

|                          |                          |                                  |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| EDWARD [REDACTED] *      | BRENDA N [REDACTED] *    | P.A. [REDACTED] *                |
| [REDACTED] *             | [REDACTED] *             | [REDACTED] *                     |
| SINGLE-ENGINEER-6'-1" *  | H9s-5J4 *                | INTERESTS: All things feminine * |
| 180# 40 YRS OLD. WILL *  | AGE 35-5'-7" - 155lbs. * | ine - would like to meet *       |
| ANSWER ALL LETTERS. *    | WILL EXCHANGE PHOTOS. *  | understanding real ladies - *    |
| ***** *                  | MEET OTHER TVS. LIKE *   | TVs - nice gentleman - dis *     |
| LIZ R [REDACTED] *       | TO MEET UNDERSTANDING *  | cretion and privacy assured. *   |
| POB 32 *                 | DOMINANT WOMEN. WILL *   | Will exchange photos. *          |
| [REDACTED] *             | ANSWER ALL LETTERS. *    | ***** *                          |
| TS - married - 26 - 5' * | ***** *                  | ***** *                          |
| 6" - 130 lbs. *          | LEE A [REDACTED] *       | GORDON [REDACTED] *              |
| INTERESTS: Photogerphy * | [REDACTED] *             | [REDACTED] *                     |
| Electronics * & Cars. *  | [REDACTED] *             | [REDACTED] *                     |
| ***** *                  | ***** *                  | ***** *                          |
| [REDACTED] St. *         | DONALD [REDACTED] *      | [REDACTED] *                     |
| Syracuse, N.Y. *         | ***** *                  | ***** *                          |

Any member who would like their names and address listed for correspondence with their interests let me know. All it takes is \$1 to help pay postage.

JENNIE M. from Long Island was up to our Island this past summer and I was about to drill a hole in the floor to pass through a copper tube. I told Jennie I have to go and get a drell to make this hole. I showed him where I wanted the hole, he pulled out his 45 revolver and shot a perfect hole in the floor. As he put the gun away, he said, "For smaller holes, like telephone wire, I use a 38".

As you all know FRANCIS GLASER from Rochester, N.Y. has been on a diet. Well one day KATHY GURIN of Syracuse, N.Y. walked into the store and seen FRANCIS being served a J U M B O hot fudge Sundae; "Hey, I thought you were on a diet." "I am, I am, I just do this to test myself". Then DIGGING in, "So far, I've failed this test every time."

ELANDA MERZ travels a lot in her work. So she submitted her expence account to her boss. Stabbing at it with his finger, the boss demanded, "What's this big item?" "Oh," said Elanda, "Thats just the hotel bill." "Well," said the boss, "don't Buy any more hotels!"....

Dear Doctor.....By Jeri Kay

The doctor cleared his throat several times and glared at his patient. "Do you realize what you're asking me to do? Why, it's unheard of! From an ethical point of view, I think such an action is criminal--oh, I know some of these smart-aleck doctors out--East are doing it. But I won't endanger my practice by having anything to do with this. My advice to you, young man, is to get that ridiculous hair cut off, and start wearing pants instead of dresses. My god! Haven't you any sense of shame?"

"You don't understand, doctor," said his patient softly.

"On the contrary, I do. You have this perverted urge to wear women's clothes and so, regardless of the law or the proprieties, you do so. Somehow you have managed to convince a doctor to give you treatments that have effeminized you--a point that I'm going to take up with the medical board, I assure you. We'll see how your medical friend acts in front of the board when it's time to renew his medical license!--and you--Why, you're enough to turn a person's stomach, sitting there like that. If a person didn't know better, he'd swear you were a woman."

"But I am!" protested the patient. "Why can't you see that? Look at me--I have a woman's figure--all that--and you act like I was doing wrong."

"God gave you your sex!" thundered the doctor, "it is not up to man to change that. What ever possessed this doctor to send you to me?"

"He said you were the best gynecologist in the State."

"Under other circumstances, I would be flattered. As it is, I'm insulted. Even this letter of introduction is an insult: "Dear Doctor, this patient was formerly a young man--" when I read that far, I quit. There's no need to go any farther. I refuse to have anything further to do with it or you. Goodbye. If you aren't out of this office in two minutes, I'll call the police--in fact, I may do just that on general principles."

The patient stood up, turned and walked to the door, high heels clicking on the tile floor. Turning at the door, the patient looked back for a second, and said, "You are the most ignorant, pompous, conceited ass I have seen in my miserable life. Furthermore, you are so pig-headed, obstinate and -- ch, hell! --what's the use. Before you do anything else, read the last paragraph of that letter."

The doctor had grown very red with rage while the patient had called him those names; now in an icy rage, he unfolded the letter again, and looked at it--jerked his head--and stared, with open mouth at his patient. Finally he swallowed, and said, "But this changes everything!"

"I can't see how." the patient said calmly. "Nothing has changed since I walked in here. I wouldn't let you touch me with a ten foot pole. Goodbye doctor. Oh--I may take this up with the medical board myself. After all, you have treated me very shoddily." There was a sound of a door closing, and the sharp rap of high heels clicking down the hall.

The doctor sat at his desk, his head in his hands, re-reading that final paragraph over and over again, the image of the patient still on his mind. The words leaped at him from the paper:

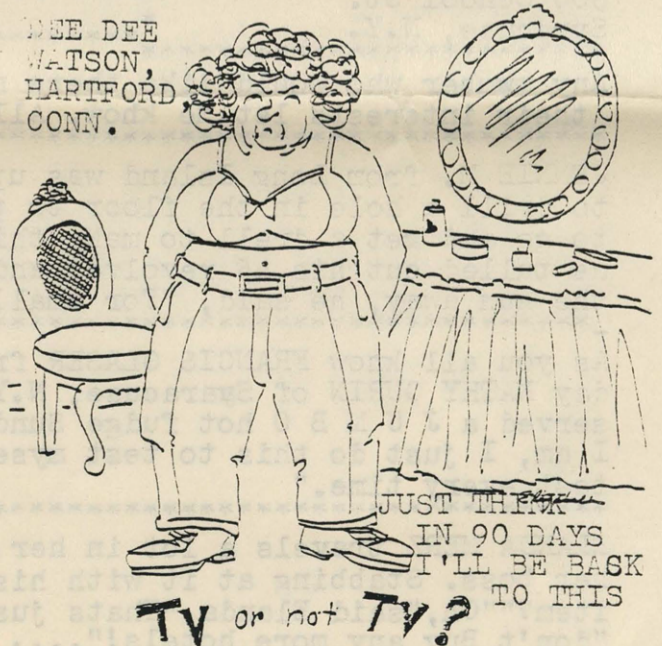
".....and so, because of these circumstances, you are probably the best qualified to help this person through a most difficult pregnancy."

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This is a song composed by DEE DEE [redacted] Sing it to the tune of "bye, Bye, Blackbird. \*\*\*\*\*

Pack my blouses, skirts and suits,  
Sandals, pumps and high heeled boots,  
Bye, Bye, TVs  
Undies bras and panties and hose,  
I'll be needing none of those,  
Bye, Bye, TVs.  
Never thought I'd live to meet my doo-oom  
But they caught me in the ladies roo-oom.  
Lock the door put out the lights,  
I'll be gone for ninety nights,  
TVs, Bye, Bye.

DEE DEE  
WATSON,  
HARTFORD  
CONN.



-----  
TO DEE DEE: After looking over your picture at the right, I can see why the judge gave you ninety days. If he had his glasses on he would have given you one hundred and ninety days. TO VIE: What a lucky girl you are to be free for ninety days. Love WILMA.....

Dear Wilma and Helen:

Another year has rolled by, and we miss seeing you folks. Elaine and I often speak of you and the pleasant times we had at your house. The Journal gives as a link with what's going on, and we look forward to it.

I was intrigued by your article in the last issue (June '81) in which you separated sex from TVism in favor of ego-gratification. It was a fascinating theory, but does it hold true for everyone? Are there certain stages in TV development (motivation) that cause people to dress? In other words, does a person start to dress (as an example) because of an incident in childhood, goes through a dormant period to Adolescence, where he again dresses for sexual gratification, and with the decline of the sex drive, turns to ego-gratification? You were quite specific about this (ego rather than sex-gratifying).

My reason for asking is because of an incident that I heard of here in Barre. It concerns an elderly man who was seen on the streets dressed as a woman. It was said he had just lost his wife, and was so close to her that he adopted her identity after her death. I haven't had a chance to follow up on this, but thought you might be interested.

I came across another interesting aspect in a book entitled; "Mrs. Man." The main point of the book was how a woman lost her identity by adopting the man's name in marriage, but she told of a Mrs. Frank Leslie, who adopted his name without the preceding "MRS" after his death. The author made the point that by being known as simply "Frank Leslie," she was a transvestite, even though she dressed as a woman.

I guess a lot of it goes back to definitions, which is still a very grey area in my opinion. Mary Calderone in "A Book of Family Sexuality" defines a transvestite as one "who must be dressed in the clothing of the opposite sex during relations to obtain sexual gratification." This not a word for word definition, but contains the general idea.

I won't bother to go over my feelings on the matter, because, like my wife, you have heard it all before, but I still feel that in matters of appearance, man is very unequal. No need to beat a dead horse, though.

GERALD A. [REDACTED]

Dear Wilma: As for the question of the month. For me it was no big deal. I just pick up the phone book and let my fingers do the walking. I called a couple of different people until I found someone who had time for me. She turned out to be a real nice lady and I go when ever I have extra money and time. I was surprised to find that a lot of men have electrolyses done for all kinds of different reasons. I am allergic to metal and have a very heavy, and rapid beard growth etc. So if anyone is worried about getting their beard removed, don't be. It can be painful in some areas, but for the most part it is worth it. Don't expect miracles it takes a long time and it seems that half of it grows back, not to mention all the new hairs that pop up. For me it's well worth it and I'll keep at it until it is all gone.

LIZ [REDACTED]

HUSTON, TEXAS (UPI) City council has rescinded an ordinance prohibiting persons from dressing in clothing of the opposite sex. A federal judge earlier this year ruled the ordinance violated the civil rights of transsexuals who were required to dress in the clothing of the opposite sex before undergoing sex change surgery.

Like everything else that we do here at TVIC, it is dependent on you, the readers, not just financially but for material too. Each of you has some little idea, comment SO SEND IT IN!!!!!!!!!!!!



"It's some guy who says his name is Susan."

Dear Wilma: I was forced to have a transsexual operation two years ago, which made me an invalid. I am still very, very sick with it now. Don't think I will live much longer, but will write you a real letter, just as soon as I am able.. Mean time, please take of yourselfes, and keep sending TVIV News. I love it. Wishing you and Helen a wonderful summer..Love, LESLIE QUALLS. (I am very sorry to hear of your misfortune and wish that I was closer to say this in person. But don't you dare give up by saying that you don't think that have long to live. Love, Wilma)

(SPECIAL NOTE TO ALL MEMBERS: Here is a member in great need of friendship and a reason for living. I beg you all who read this to drop Leslie a card or short note giving her a reason to live and to know that she has many friends who wish her well. I am sure that an 18¢ stamp an 5 minutes of your time will help this unhappy girl. Send your mail to

Ms LESLIE [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED]  
\*\*\*\*\*

While on the subject of Transsexual operations here are two more etiems I must enter with regret.

The passing of one of our members JANICE ANDERSON of CANADA. A one-time Secretary Treasurer of FACT. Janice died tragically in her Ketchener apartment on Feb. 19th. Ms Anderson was 32 years of age and had undegone a sex reassignment surgery in Tronto in April 1980.

Those of you who are religious may wish to say a prayer for Janice and those of us who are athiest may wish to hold her memory in found remembrance. I never have had the pleasure of meeting Janice in person (which I deeply regret) but we have written many letters over the past 3 years.

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And hear again I must let you know of another lovely member who has passed away this year.

Ms LESLIE [REDACTED] of Brooklyn, N.Y. who has been a member of TVIC for over 10 years. She was a wonderful person and will be missed by all.

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This is a very sad page but I must continue. We have lost over 10 members in the pass 5 years who have had transsexual operations. I don't say that this was the reason of death, but please think it over 100 times before any of you do seek an operation. I can safely say that over 90% of all cross-dressers at onetime or another have wanted the operation. But I believe that over 50% who have had it was due to lonlieness, not having understanding friends and not being able to meet other people who crossdress. I could be wrong but in my 70 years I have personly x spoke to over 5000 crossdressers, and know of at lest 25 who were sorry they ever had the operations. Meeting another cross-dresser and takking over your problem can sometime be of more help than any doctor can.

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Dear Wilma: I have been a TV for some 12 years now. I recently started taking hormone shots to reduce body hair and to add extra width to my hips. As a result my breasts are growing much more rapidly than I ever had expected. All-ready after 6 months they are a 36B. And I don't want them to become ant large. Do you know what would happen if I stoped taking them now? I am not troubled over the size now, but I am only 5'-6" tall and only weigh 135 lbs. So if they were to continue at the same rate for 6 months more, I would be out of sight. My desire is to maintain around a 36B or 37B,..ADAL H., NEWPORT, R.I.

Dear Adal; Before I answer your question I wish that you would reread the above of this page and think...First it is dangerous to take certain hormones without your doctors advice.Which I take you have not done so or you would not have asked the question.If you stop taking the hoemone shots you will gradually become more male again. Your development will go back to approximately what it was before you started. I would not worry about your breasx growing unless your mother was well endowed. Heredity determines the size of your figure. If there is a history of large breasted women in your family, then you will probably develop quite well. Remember though, the secret of taking hormones is not how much or how long you take them. It takes years to develop completely and REMBER YOU HAVE ONLY ONE LIVER TO GIVE FOR YOUR DESIRES..

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MISERY is laughing at your husband because he can't get into his old army uniform and then you can't get into your old maternity dress...  
MISERY is when your beautiful blonde neighbor comes over to visit you with a bottle of booze 10 min. after you've taken 2 sleeping pills.  
MISERY is wearing a topless bathing suit and having a man walk up to you & say NICE DAY SIR  
MISERY is when a TVs waist measurment keep up with his age.....  
MISERY is going to a topless bar the same day you had your eyes dilated.



"Sammy, I guess what we wanna know is... should we be thinking about a replacement for you on the bowling team...?"

# WOMAN INSIDE MY BODY, PLUMBER SAYS

## Melanie begs for release

By KATHY ENGLISH  
Staff Writer

To all the world, the six-foot-two plumber, dressed in lumberjack shirt and jeans is a picture of macho.

In the eyes of the law and society, Dan Keenan is a man.

But in his own eyes, he's not. Keenan is a transsexual. Locked inside his man's body is a woman screaming for release.

And soon Melanie — the woman within — will be free. The Etobicoke plumber is undergoing hormone therapy to give him breasts and curves and plans to have a sex-change operation as soon as he can.

He'll continue at the Toronto plumbing firm he works for, but he'll be a secretary instead of a steam fitter.

"It's hard to make people understand I'm not what they see," Keenan, 28, said. "I'm basically the same as any woman, I just got the wrong parts."

How does Keenan know he's a woman? Because he knows he's not a man.

"It's hard to explain. All I can say is I'm a girl," he said. "In my thoughts, dreams and fantasies, I'm a woman."

"I know I'm not a male because I've tried it and failed. I hate my physical appearance. I look in the mirror and hate what I see."

He's made several suicide attempts, has been in and out of psychiatric hospitals, and been under constant psychiatric care.

Keenan prays the confusion will soon end. Next month, he'll legally change his name and identity and give life to Melanie. His life insurance agent has already sent away for a policy in Melanie's name.

The Ontario government allows transsexuals to change their identity and take out new birth certificates, although the old records must be kept on file.

Keenan will live totally as a woman for the next 1½ years and then psychiatrists will decide if he's eligible for the final surgery that will obliterate

all traces of his manhood.

He already wears a brassiere under his pink t-shirt to encase his developing breasts. Electrolysis is ridding him of face and body hair.

The road to a new gender is long, painful and expensive. Keenan estimates the whole procedure will cost \$14,000.

Surgery includes removal of penis and testicles, construction of an artificial vagina, hormone treatments and plastic surgery.

"It's just like being in prison."

Keenan, who's tall and slim, with chin-length red hair he plans to grow to his waist, once entertained as a drag-queen on the gay bar circuit.

It was solely an opportunity to put on his make-up, don the pink, frilly things he loves and appear as a woman.

Keenan stresses he's not a homosexual.

"The homosexual looks at a man and imagines making love as a man. I look at a man and imagine making love as a woman."

When the sex change is complete, Melanie wants to settle down and marry and she won't be a liberated lady. "I believe the man wears the pants," he said. "I want to be able to cook, clean and do laundry. I enjoy doing what I'm told."

Keenan is lucky. His 31-year-old boss fully supports his actions. He's even given him a choice of continuing as a steam fitter or working as a secretary at the same pay.

Others aren't as liberal. Keenan's widowed mother and an older brother can't accept it. Three other brothers and sisters do their best to understand, he said.

Keenan has two reasons for going public. He wants to gauge public reaction and clear the way for other transsexuals.

"I'm at the point now where I finally know what I'm doing. I'm not afraid to tell anyone who I really am," he said. "I'm not the only transsexual that's been hiding."



Jac holland, sun

ALTHOUGH HE looks like your average plumber, transsexual Dan Keenan says there's a woman in his body who he will liberate with hormones and surgery.

CUERNAVACA - MEXICO: (UPI). Men were on strick at Syntex a chemical plant that produced hormones. They say their breast are getting larger. (any member looking for a job, no more falsies.)

ORLANDO\*FLA. Police and residents are all upset over a burglar who steals bras and panties. It seems he built a "panty" alter in the woods.

GI WAS REAL MAN \* AND LADY: A person believed to be the first ever to serve in the Armed Forces both as a man and a woman has won a four-year battle for an honorable discharge. JOANNA CLARK, 42, succeeded in convincing a military administrative board to overturn a 1977 dishonorable discharge which was issued on the grounds that she had violated regulations forbidding persons who have undergone sex-change operations from re-enlisting. CLARK'S first honorable discharge was in 1969 when she was known as CHIEF PETTY OFFICER MICHAEL CLARK. She re-enlisted after having a sex-change operation in 1975.

There was once a TV named Phillip who went to work in a half-slip. His boss was distressed to see him so dressed. So he gave Phillip his pink slip.

(sent in by CAROL A. N.Y., N.Y.)

# lad skirts issue in field hockey

DOVER, Del. (GNS)— The standard uniform of most high school field hockey teams includes the traditional Scottish kilt-type skirt that all the girls must wear.

That fashion note is hardly a blockbuster, especially when all the team members are girls.

However, there is one very noticeable exception this fall. Craig Orr, a junior at Dover High, is a boy, and a member of the Senators' field hockey team. And he wears the mandatory skirt.

He opened the season on a good note this week, scoring all four goals as Dover defeated Delmar, 4-0.

Orr, a 5-foot-10, 180-pounder, who played on Dover's junior varsity team last year, says this is not a gimmick to get publicity or an attempt to show up the girls.

"I like football and watch it all the time, but I'm not that good," he said. "I love hockey, especially ice hockey. I just don't think I'm doing it for the publicity. I usually shy away from getting attention. This is no joke with me."

As a result of the skirt, Orr has taken his share of ribbing and harassment.

"I don't like that skirt at all," he said. "I really hate it, but all the uniforms have to be similar. At least they are not like the uniform at Lake Forest that is almost like a cheerleader uniform."

"Believe me, it takes a lot of guts on his part to wear that kilt," said coach Marge Hall. "Sure, I was surprised he stayed with it, but I enjoy him playing on the team. I wouldn't mind having a couple more like him with the same great attitude. He just wants to play hockey, and the kids respect him. He gets along great with the girls."

Under the rules of the Delaware Secondary School Athletic Association, Orr is eligible to play field hockey. "When there is only one team on that level (in a particular sport), it has to be open to everyone," said William Griswold, chairman of the DSSAA board of directors.

Orr admitted the ribbing sometimes is hard to handle. He had problems controlling his temper last season on the junior varsity team. "I was playing goalie one game last year in Milford and almost got into a fight," he said. "In the first half the football players came over from practice and were yelling at me. Then a couple guys in the parking lot were really getting on me."

"It just went too far and I had enough. I got so mad I left the goal while the game was going on and started waving my stick at them, telling them to shut up. Some of the girls came over and held me back."

Hall says she doesn't think Orr will duplicate that type of behavior this year.

"Craig expects things like that to happen and he ignores it," said the coach, whose team failed to win a game last year. "I've had some discussions with him. I told him he just can't let it get to him. He just blanks it out now."

"I'll play all season and won't back off," says Orr. "I think field hockey takes more skill than regular hockey. You have to have quick feet and can only use one side of the stick. People think it's just a bunch of girls, but they can get pretty rough."

Orr said some of the girls resented him at first, but now they seem to have accepted him as a team member.

"It doesn't seem to make any difference if he is a boy or a girl," said senior right wing Dawn Perkuchin. "Once in a while, when people start talking about him, we will stick up for him."



RIGHT, THE KILT SKIRT CRAIG WEARS



**DEAR ABBY:** At 16 I married a 21-year-old man I thought I loved. We had a son a year later, but the marriage didn't work out, so we were divorced when the boy was six. I'm now married to a wonderful man who adopted my son.

Meanwhile, my ex dropped out of sight for three years. Yesterday, out of the blue, he called saying he had something very important to tell me, and would I meet him downtown — alone.

When I met him, I nearly fainted dead away. He was dressed like a woman. He said he was a transsexual who had been living as a woman for two years and was scheduled for a sex change operation next month. He said his name is "Anita" now, and he's in show business. Abby, I couldn't believe my eyes. He had electrolysis to remove his facial hair, took hormones to develop a female figure, and was wearing a wig, makeup and stylish shoes. He looked like a beautiful woman. This was a great shock to me because he was all man when we were married. Our sex life was normal, and I never dreamed he had these tendencies.

My problem is how to tell our son. Or should I tell him at all? (He's nine now). My ex lives in another state and has promised not to come near our son without my approval. If the boy ever saw his father as "Anita" he would die and so

would I. I am so afraid someone in this little town will find out about this V and blab it around. What should I do?

SMALL TOWN MESS

**Dear Ann Landers:** I am a woman, past 50, employed at a bank. The young man whose desk is in front of mine has always been pleasant and considerate.

Yesterday he removed his coat and I could see the unmistakable outline of a bra and a slip under his shirt. I decided to tell him it would be a good idea if he kept his coat on because others might not be as understanding as I. (My son was a homosexual and I was less compassionate in those days. He took his life and I will never get over it.)

The following morning, there was a beautiful note on my desk thanking me for my kindness. I should make it clear that most cross-dressers are not necessarily homosexuals. They derive satisfaction from wearing women's garmets and are not interested in anything more. Please print my letter and urge your readers to temper their judgment of people who are "different." I wish I had known 20 years ago what I know today. — Wiser in Dubuque.

**Dear Wiser:** You sound like a person I would like for a friend. Thanks for writing.

I have been able to collect several good books for our library. Even so, we still need more. If you have any books on transvestism and/or transexualism and would be willing to donate them to TVIC, I would appreciate your generosity very much..WILMA.

week-long convention. Toussieng said a published report by Dr. Jon Meyer, a psychiatrist at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, showed people who had sex change surgery were no better off than before. But the study cited persons who had operations before today's rigid standards were set, he said. Johns Hopkins has now stopped performing sex-change surgery but there about 10,000 operations performed in U.S. hospitals in the last five years. (Toronto Sun, April 8).